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SECURITY INFORMATIONCENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

SUBJECT Explosion in Potassium Sulphate Works/USSR Absorption  
of Potash ProductionPLACE ACQUIRED  
(BY SOURCE) 25X1ADATE ACQUIRED  
(BY SOURCE)

DATE (OF INFO.) 16 Jul 53

DIR NO.	
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DATE DISTR. 19 Aug 53

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SOURCE

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"For the past six weeks the USSR has apparently been absorbing most of the potash production of Germany (Soviet Zone) [redacted] getting deliveries of sulphate of potash and muriate of potash.

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"On 7 Jul 53 there was a severe explosion in the potassium sulphate works causing great damage. The works is located southeast of Berlin in the Soviet Zone, approximately fifty to sixty miles from Magdeburg on the Elbe River. 3,000 tons of potassium sulphate [redacted] have been delayed by this explosion.

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"Huckstadt, the Managing Director of DIA, [redacted] pro-US although his circumstances force him to get along with the Soviets, [redacted] 3,000 tons of muriate of potash which is presently available to circumvent the USSR, as he fears the possibility that Moscow may prohibit shipments in the near future."

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